

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Fort Peck Fish Multi-Species Fish Hatchery 277 Highway 117 P.O. Box 167 Fort Peck, MT 59223

July 18, 2016

ACOE – Omaha District

Keith Fink – Chief of Operations

ACOE – Fort Peck Project

Darin McMurry—Project Leader

Walleyes Unlimited of Montana

**Environmental Quality Council** 

Montana Department of Environmental Quality

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Parks Division

Fisheries Division

Wildlife Division

Conservation & Education Division

Design & Construction Bureau

**Commission Secretary** 

Director's staff

**Regional Supervisors** 

Regional Office Managers

Lands Unit

Law Enforcement Division

Legal Unit

Responsive Management Unit

Montana State Library, Helena

**LEG Services** 

State Historic Preservation Office

Governor's Office

MT Environmental Information Center

Richard Stuker (FWP Commissioner)

Matthew Tourtlotte(FWPCommissioner)

Dan Vermillion (FWP Commissioner)

Gary J. Wolfe (FWP Commissioner)

McCone County Commissioners

Valley County Commissioners

McCone County NRCS

Valley County NRCS

Trout Unlimited of Montana

Town of Fort Peck

Fort Peck Rural County Water Dist.

USFWS - Fort Peck Office

## Ladies and Gentlemen:

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) has developed a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) prepared for proposing to change the incoming water source to an alternative water supply for the Fort Peck Multi-Species Fish Hatchery.

The proposed project, with the help of the Army Corp of Engineers, is to run a new pipeline from the Fort Peck Power House to the Fort Peck Multi-Species Fish Hatchery. Presently, the hatchery receives its water from the Fort Peck Dredge Cuts below Fort Peck Reservoir through an infiltration gallery and that water is pumped to the hatchery building and concrete raceways. Due to the deterioration and reduced water flow through this infiltration gallery, an alternative water supply to provide process water to the hatchery building and concrete raceways is needed.

The EA is available at: <a href="http://fwp.mt.gov">http://fwp.mt.gov</a> under public notices. You may request a hardcopy by calling 841-4007 or 526-3689. The public comment period on the draft EA will extend through 5:00 pm, August 17, 2016. A public meeting will be held at the Fort Peck Multi-Species Fish Hatchery Conference Room on August 11, 2016 from 7 PM to 8 PM.

Written comments can be mailed to Fort Peck Fish Hatchery EA, Jason Senn, P.E. Project Manager, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, P.O. Box 200701, Helena, MT 59620-0701 or emailed to *jsenn@mt.gov*. If you have any further questions regarding this proposal, please call the Fort Peck Multi-Species Fish Hatchery at 526-3689.

Thank you very much for your interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Wade T. Geraets

Hatchery Manager, Fort Peck Multi-Species Fish Hatchery